

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY,
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Washington, DC, June 6, 1995.

Hon. RANDY TATE,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN TATE: This letter is to reaffirm the Army's support and approval for the proposed land exchange involving the Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Company (WRECO), Pierce County and the United States.

The Army has been working with and will continue to work with Weyerhaeuser and local Pierce County officials to further this mutually beneficial arrangement.

Sincerely,

PAUL W. JOHNSON,
Deputy Assistant Secretary
of the Army.

CIRCLE OF ELDERLY CARE

HON. MARTIN R. HOKE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 5, 1996

Mr. HOKE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues an exciting new program that has been established in northeast Ohio.

The Circle of Elderly care represents an innovative, model program of private and public community-based enterprises working together for our senior citizens. After two years of developing this program, Bertha (Betty) Villanueva, an owner of Indian Hills Senior Community, Inc., one of the largest privately owned, low income, senior community living complexes in the United States, has accomplished a creative and successful working network of programs and services for senior citizens to benefit from available local community resources.

Mrs. Villanueva identified the need for a comprehensive program of services to suit the unique needs of our senior citizens, such as medical, social and transportation services. She then initiated efforts to bring together public and private entities to develop a network of quality services for senior citizens. The result is the Circle of Elderly Care.

At the center of the CIRCLE is Indian Hills Senior Community, located in Euclid, Ohio (a suburb of Cleveland) consisting of 37 acres of land, and an unsubsidized apartment complex which includes 10 residential buildings. Its 1,574 units are designed for senior citizens (55 and over) who can live independently. Not only does Indian Hills provide housing to its residents, but also a broad spectrum of services including health, security, transportation, social and entertainment services. The Indian Hills complex also includes Silverpointe, located in one of the Indian Hills buildings, which is an assisted-living facility, with three levels of assisted care available, thus providing residential alternatives for those senior citizens who cannot live totally independent. Across the street from the Indian Hills residential complex is Indian Hills Plaza which consists of several retail stores, including one of the largest drug store chains, a restaurant, medical center, ambulance service and senior day care, all of which are completely accessible to Indian Hills residents.

Now, due to Mrs. Villanueva efforts, over a dozen different entities participate in the Circle of Elderly Care including:

CITY OF EUCLID

The City of Euclid has sponsored a seniors' program for its residents including a pro-

gram at the Emeritus House, a multi-purpose senior center located in the center of the Indian Hills apartment complex. The program includes daily lunches and meals for the homebound (sponsored through the Western Reserve Area on Aging pursuant to the Older Americans Act), recreational programs, free transportation to stores, doctors, etc., social activities, income tax preparation assistance and a senior employment program (sponsored through AARP), among others. These services are offered at no charge to Indian Hills residents.

INDIAN HILLS NURSING CENTER

The Indian Hills Nursing Center is a nursing home managed by Integrated Health Services, Inc. and is located across the street from the Indian Hills complex. It provides short and long-term care for senior citizens, and works with Indian Hills to assist Indian Hills' residents requiring a stay at the Center to return to independent living at Indian Hills, or assisted-living at Silverpointe. For example, Indian Hills will hold an apartment open if a resident needs a short stay in the Center.

AETNA SENIOR CHOICE, AN AETNA HEALTH PLAN

Aetna Senior Choice, a health maintenance organization, offers an alternative to Medicare and has a specific representative designated to Medicare and has a specific representative designated to work with Indian Hills residents. This plan offers seniors no monthly premiums, 100 percent hospitalization coverage, no deductibles or co-insurance, and 100 percent payment for well services, and a \$5.00 physician in-office co-payment.

HEALTHWAYS, FAMILY MEDICAL CENTERS

HealthWays is a for-profit medical center affiliated with Aetna, located in the Indian Hills Plaza which provides 24-hour emergency care, outpatient surgery, and comprehensive medical care services offering a team approach to health care. Not only does it accept the Aetna Senior Choice Plan, but all other insurance as well including Medicare, and is conveniently accessed by the Indian Hills residents.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS OF CLEVELAND

This world-renowned medical facility has designated geriatric social workers to assist Indian Hills residents requiring medical treatment at University Hospitals. If an Indian Hills resident is treated at the University Hospitals emergency room, a University Hospitals social worker will contact the Indian Hills nurse to coordinate the resident's return from the hospital to his or her residence at Indian Hills along with follow-up services. Additionally, University Hospitals provides on-site seminars to Indian Hills residents on seniors issues and provides various testing such as blood pressure screenings, etc.

BENJAMIN ROSE INSTITUTE

The Benjamin Rose Institute is a nationally recognized non-profit, Medicare/Medicaid certified agency providing services to senior citizens on a sliding fee scale. BRI works with Indian Hills to provide home health care for its residents and also provides social services, counselling and mental health services to enable senior citizens to maintain their self-sufficiency and independence. BRI has an office located at Indian Hills staffed by social workers.

MT. SINAI HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

This nationally recognized medical facility (named the number one hospital by Cleveland Health Quality Choice) works with Indian Hills to provide on-site lectures by physicians on geriatric related issues, and various medical screenings. A specific emergency room physician has been designated at Mt. Sinai to treat all Indian Hills residents

to foster close contact between Mt. Sinai as the medical provider, and Indian Hills as the residence of the patient.

VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION OF CLEVELAND

The Visiting Nurse Association of Cleveland is a non-profit agency providing home health care to residents of Indian Hills. The VNA has a social worker at Indian Hills two days a week to assist in coordinating home health care, mental health, social services and rehabilitation therapies. This social worker serves as the primary coordinator for Indian Hills residents with all of the other programs described here.

TRI-CITY AMBULANCE, INC.

This for-profit entity is located at Indian Hills Plaza and provides 24-hour emergency medical transportation staffed by licensed Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics. In addition, it has a wheelchair van service which offers transportation to Indian Hills residents for dialysis and other medical needs, and it offers Indian Hills residents a reduced price for its transportation services.

LAURELWOOD HOSPITAL

This non-profit psychiatric hospital provides in-patient care and outpatient counseling to senior citizens. Laurelwood Hospital has opened an office on Indian Hills' premises which is staffed by two geriatric psychiatrists. The psychiatrists provide psychiatric treatment for Indian Hills residents whether at the resident's apartment, or in the office, thereby providing complete accessibility to the senior citizens of Indian Hills.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR AND ADULT SERVICES

This Medicare/Medicaid certified program sponsored by Cuyahoga County, Ohio, provides adult protective services, and skilled home health care services including nursing, physical and speech therapy and nutrition counselling. The County has designated a specific person to coordinate its available services with Indian Hills residents.

OTHER MEDICAL SERVICES

Indian Hills also has a dental office on the premises staffed by a dentist offering free dental exams, apartment calls and a discount to Indian Hills' residents. Additionally, it has a podiatrist with an office onsite offering discounted podiatry services to Indian Hills residents at their apartment or the office.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

The American Red Cross provides CPR and first aid training, disaster planning and blood pressure screenings on-site for Indian Hills' residents.

This comprehensive model of care reflects the innovative networking of community agencies/services working towards a common goal—to give our senior citizens a choice of affordable, quality services and the ability to retain their dignity and independence. The Circle of Elderly Care, with Indian Hills as its focal point is a novel and workable concept utilizing available community resources to serve our senior citizens.

I urge all my colleagues to give this information wide dissemination in their own districts.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

TONY LAKE ANOTHER UNSUNG
HERO

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 5, 1996

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, the unsung hero in the Bosnia success of the Clinton